FACT SHEET

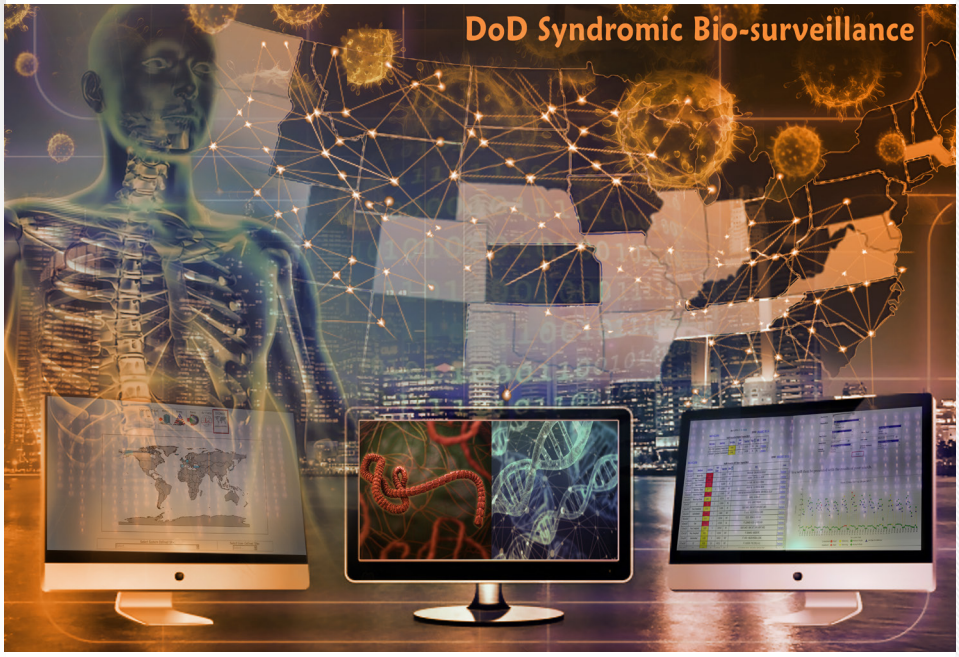
ESSENCE

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM FOR THE EARLY NOTIFICATION OF COMMUNITY-BASED EPIDEMICS

ESSENCE monitors and provides alerts for rapid or unusual increases in the occurrence of infectious diseases and biological outbreaks.

The Department of Defense (DoD) ESSENCE program is the Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics, a global and Military Health System (MHS) monitoring capability for early detection of imminent health threats impacting force readiness for active duty service members. ESSENCE is the only global capability for the early detection of threats to force health protection available in the MHS. Utilizing the same software as the Centers for Disease Control and over half of the U.S. state public health departments, ESSENCE enables enhanced collaboration with our local civilian counterparts during an outbreak. The Armed Forces Health Surveillance Branch (AFHSB), the Service-specific public health centers, and the Medical Treatment Facilities (MTFs) worldwide use ESSENCE on a daily basis to monitor the health status of the MHS population in a time where concerns about possible biomedical terrorist attacks and naturally occurring emerging infections are heightened.

ESSENCE monitors the direct care of the overall MHS population, containing data for over 9.6 million beneficiaries. The ESSENCE program facilitates recognition and investigation of the Tri-Service Reportable Medical Events and permits access to aggregate data and individual data to analyze the epidemiologic characteristics for all health events of interest for Medical situational awareness and readiness.



Key Capabilities

- Provide interactive reporting, structured analysis, ad hoc queries of disease syndromes, disease and injury categories, and reportable medical events
- Provide detection and alerts based on International Classification of Diseases Version 10 codes, pharmacy prescriptions, radiology and laboratory test orders, and advanced text parsing of patient chief complaints
- Provide actionable patient-identifiable data for further investigation or validation
- Provide alerts via application alert list, email, and text message

Key Benefits

- Monitor worldwide Department of Defense outpatient health care data for certain medical syndromes and other trends of public health interest, using detection methods developed in partnership with Johns Hopkins University
- Allow Defense Health Agency epidemiologists and public health officers to obtain medical situational awareness and investigate reportable disease events

To learn more, scan the codes with your mobile device.

ESSENCE VIDEO **HEALTH.MIL**

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